Amendments to the Claims:

1 – 24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended) A loading platform system for mounting on vehicles having a support frame, ~~particularly trucks,~~ comprising: a lift support arrangement (12) ~~consisting of~~ including two essentially parallel spaced support structures (13, 14), ~~an essentially plate like~~ a loading platform (15) supported by said parallel spaced support structures (13, 14) for lifting and lowering a load, at least one lift actuating device (16, 17) for lifting and lowering the loading platform (15) as well as a slide unit (18) with a slide guide structure (30, 31) and slide elements (32, 33), which are back and forth movable in the longitudinal direction (112) of the vehicle along the slide guide structure (30, 31) and to which at least the lift support arrangement, the loading platform (15) and the at least ~~the~~ one lift actuating device (16, 17) are attached, said slide unit being mountable on the support frame of the vehicle by way of transverse members (19, 20) which bridge the distance between two spaced frame members (110, 111) of the vehicle support frame and, at their longitudinal ends, are firmly connected to said vehicle support frame members (110, 111), the slide guide structure (30, 31) including stops (45, 46) provided with ~~opening~~ openings (450, 460) extending into the path of movement of the slide elements (32, 33) and the slide elements (32, 33) having support pins (322, 332) extending into the openings (450, 460) when the slide elements (32, 33) are moved into interlocking engagement with the stops (45, 46) for ~~force- and form-locking engagement of~~ locking the slide elements (32, 33) ~~with~~ to the slide guide structure (30, 31).

26. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 25, wherein said transverse member (19, 20) is provided at its opposite ends (21, 22) with front elements (23, 24) which are connected to the transverse members (19, 20) and by way of which the transverse members (19, 20) are mounted on said support frame members (110, 111).

27. (currently amended) A loading platform system according to claim 25, wherein said slide unit (18) is removably connected to the spaced frame members (110, 111) by way of ~~tab-like~~ clamping elements (230, 240), which extend over horizontal webs of said frame members (110, 111) forming the vehicle support frame.

28. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 25, wherein said slide unit (18) is mounted to the transverse members (19, 20) such that said slide unit (18) is movable essentially in the longitudinal direction with respect to said support frame members (110, 111) of the vehicle when a force is effective on said slide unit (18) which exceeds a predetermined amount.

29. (currently amended) A loading platform system according to claim 28, wherein said slide unit (18) includes, at the side (26) thereof directed toward the transverse ~~member~~ members (19, 20), at least two opposite spaced legs (27, 28) in which elongated holes (29) for mounting the slide unit (18) to the transverse member (19, 20) are formed.

30. (currently amended) A loading platform system according to claim 25, wherein said slide unit (18) comprises at least two essentially parallel spaced guide elements (26) which are stationary relative to the vehicle frame and ~~at least two essentially parallel spaced~~ the slide elements (32, 33) which are

supported by said guide elements (16, 17) movably longitudinally back and forth relative to the vehicle frame.

31. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 30, wherein said guide elements (26) have an essentially C-shaped cross-section.

32. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 30, wherein said slide elements are slideably supported in the guide elements (30, 31).

33. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 30, wherein said slide elements (32, 33) are guided in the guide elements (30, 31) by roller elements (320, 321, 330, 331) mounted on the slide elements (32, 33).

34. (currently amended) A loading platform system according to claim 25, wherein said ~~holes~~ openings (450, 460) and the support pins (322, 332) are conical in their longitudinal cross-section.

35. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 25, wherein said stops (45, 46) are adjustable in the longitudinal direction (112) of the vehicle.

36. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 25, wherein said slide unit (18) includes end stops (47, 48) which are effective in the longitudinal direction (112) of the vehicle at least in the direction of slide-in movement (114) of the slide elements (32, 33) and which limit the slide-in movement of said slide unit (18).

37. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 36, wherein said end stops (47, 48) are so designed that they are non-elastically deformed when subjected by the slide elements (32, 33) to a force above a predetermined threshold in the longitudinal vehicle direction (112).

38. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 25, wherein a slide actuator (34) is provided for moving said slide elements 32, 33) back and forth.

39. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 38, wherein said slide actuator (34) consists of a pneumatically or hydraulically operated piston cylinder system.

40. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 25, wherein a transverse beam (35) is provided by which the spaced support structures (13, 14) are interconnected.

41. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 40, wherein said transverse beam (35) is arranged at the end of the support structure remote from the slide unit (18).

42. (currently amended) A loading platform system according to claim 41, wherein said transverse beam (35) is in the form of a ~~back-ending~~ protection element protecting the loading platform from damage when the vehicle is hit from the rear.

43. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 41, wherein said transverse beam is essentially rectangular in cross-section.

44. (previously presented) A loading platform system according to claim 41, wherein said transverse beam (35) is provided at each

end (36, 37) with a flange web (38, 39) by way of which it is mounted to one of the support structures (13, 14).